

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A scanner apparatus for scanning paper documents, of the type comprising a first device for scanning bank checks, wherein the first device includes:

a first input receptacle for receiving at least one check to be scanned, the check including a front face and a rear face;

at least one first image-scanner unit for scanning at least one of the faces of the check,

a first output receptacle for receiving the check after it has been scanned by the first scanner unit, and

a first conveyor mechanism for conveying checks, one at a time, from the first input receptacle to the first output receptacle, passing in front of the first scanner unit; and

the apparatus further comprising a second device for scanning other paper documents, wherein the second device includes:

a second input receptacle for receiving at least one paper document to be scanned, the paper document including a front face and a rear face,

at least one second image-scanner unit for scanning at least one of the faces of the paper document,

at least one second output receptacle for receiving the paper document after it has been scanned by the second scanner unit, and

a second conveyor mechanism for conveying paper documents, one at a time, from the second input receptacle to the second output receptacle, passing in front of the second scanner unit;

the scanner apparatus being characterized in that:

the second image-scanner unit is mounted so as to be rotatable about an axis perpendicular to a path of movement of the paper document in order to be able to adopt a first angular position in which the second image-scanner unit is situated on one side of the path of movement in order to scan one face of the paper document and a second angular position to which the second image-scanner unit is rotated from the first angular position and in which the second image-scanner unit is situated on an opposite side of the path of movement in order to scan the other face of the document, and

the second conveyor mechanism comprises a pair of motor-driven rollers which are adapted to be rotated selectively and alternatively in two opposite directions of rotation in order to move the paper document in a first direction or in a second direction opposite the first direction.

2. (Previously Presented) The scanner apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an outer casing containing the first scanning device and the second scanning device, and for the second input receptacle, the outer casing has an input slot for the paper documents which has a width of at least 210 mm.

3. (Previously Presented) The scanner apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an electronic control unit which is connected to the first image-scanner unit of the first device in order to receive signals relating to the scanning of checks from the first unit, and to the second image-scanner unit in order to receive signals relating to the scanning of the other paper documents from the second unit.

4. (Previously Presented) The scanner apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the electronic control unit is also operatively connected to:

first photocell means for detecting the presence of at least one check in the first input receptacle of the first scanning device,

drive/actuator means of the first conveyor mechanism for picking up at least one check from the first input receptacle and conveying the check to the first output receptacle, passing in front of the first scanning unit;

second photocell means for detecting the presence of at least one document in the second input receptacle of the second scanning device, and

drive/actuator means of the second conveyor mechanism for picking up at least one document from the second input receptacle and conveying the document to a second output receptacle, passing in front of the second scanner unit.

5. (Previously Presented) The scanner apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising one single USB or Ethernet serial communication bus operatively connected to the electronic control unit in order to transmit to the exterior the scanning data coming from all of the scanner units of the apparatus.

6. (Previously Presented) The scanner apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the second device for scanning paper documents is housed in a lower portion of a casing and in that the first scanning device is disposed in an upper portion of the casing.

7. (Previously Presented) The scanner apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the second scanning device comprises an input receptacle for paper documents, situated on a first side of a casing, and an output receptacle disposed on a second side of the casing opposite the first side.

8. (Previously presented) The scanner apparatus according to claim 7 wherein the second scanning device comprises a further output receptacle situated on the first side of the casing.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The scanner apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the pair of motor-driven rollers is interposed between the second, rotatable scanner unit and an output receptacle for receiving the documents.

12. (Previously Presented) The scanner apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the second, rotatable scanner unit is interposed between the pair of motor-driven rollers and a deflector means which can permit the movement of a document from the second input receptacle to the second scanner unit along a first path and can deflect the document along a deflected path towards a further output receptacle when the document is moving in said opposite direction.

13. (New) A scanner apparatus comprising:

an input receptacle configured to receive at least one document to be scanned, the document including a front face and a rear face;

an image-scanner unit configured to scan a face of the document;

an output receptacle configured to receive the paper document after it has been scanned by the scanner unit; and

a conveyor mechanism configured to convey paper documents, one at a time, from the input receptacle to the output receptacle, passing in front of the scanner unit, wherein

the image-scanner unit is mounted so as to be rotatable about an axis perpendicular to a path of movement of the document in order to be able to adopt a first angular position in which the image-scanner is situated on a first side of the path of movement in order to scan a first face of the document and a second angular position to which the image-scanner unit is rotated from the first angular position and in which the image-scanner unit is situated on a second side of the path of movement, opposed to the first side, in order to scan a second face of the document, opposed to the first face; and

the conveyor mechanism comprises a pair of motor-driven rollers which are adapted to be rotated selectively and alternatively in two opposite directions of rotation in order to move the paper document in a first direction or in a second direction opposite the first direction along the path of movement.

14. (New) The scanner apparatus of claim 13, further comprising:

a check input receptacle configured to receive at least one check to be scanned, the check including a front face and a rear face;

at least one check image-scanner unit configured to scan at least one of the faces of the check,

a check output receptacle configured to receive the check after it has been scanned by the first scanner unit, and

a conveyor mechanism configured to convey checks, one at a time, from the check input receptacle to the check output receptacle, passing in front of the check scanner unit.